

CLAIMS

1 1. In a data processing system having a user terminal operated by a user which
 2 builds a service for accessing a data base management system responsively
 3 coupled to said user terminal via a publically accessible digital data
 4 communication network , the improvement comprising:

5 a data wizard which permits said user to specify said service as an ordered
 6 sequence of discreet and independent steps and which presents a plurality
 7 of valid steps as choices for addition at each position in said plurality of
 8 discreet and independent steps.

1 2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said publically accessible digital
 2 data communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said user terminal further
 2 comprises an industry compatible personal computer having a commercially
 3 available browser.

1 4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said data wizard inhibits
2 presentation of any step which would not be valid for the corresponding position
3 within said ordered sequence.

1 5. The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said data base management
2 system is Classic MAPPER.

1 6. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. a user terminal;

3 b. a data base management system responsively coupled to said user
4 terminal via a publically accessible digital data communication network;
5 and

6 c. a data wizard responsively coupled to said user terminal and said data
7 base management system which permits a service to be defined from said
8 user terminal in accordance with an ordered sequence of discreet and
9 independent steps and which presents a plurality of valid steps as choices
10 for addition to said plurality of steps for each step of said plurality of
11 ordered steps.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said data wizard inhibits presentation of any
2 invalid step for any given one of said ordered sequence.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said user terminal further comprises an
2 industry compatible personal computer containing a web browser.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said data base management system further
2 comprises the MAPPER data base management system.

1 11. A method of dynamically building a service from a user terminal coupled via a
2 publically accessible digital data network to a remote data base management
3 system having a component building process comprising:

- 4 a. presenting a first plurality of potential steps which are valid for a first
5 position in an ordered sequence of steps which define said service;
- 6 b. inserting a chosen one of said first plurality of potential steps into said
7 ordered sequence of steps;
- 8 c. presenting a second plurality of potential steps which are valid for a
9 next position in said ordered sequence of steps;
- 10 d. inserting a chosen one of said second plurality of potential steps into
11 said ordered sequence of steps; and

12 e. repeating steps c and d until said service is complete.

1 12. A method according to claim 11 further wherein each of said presenting steps
2 inhibits presentation of any potential step which is not valid for said next position
3 within said ordered sequence of steps.

1 13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the world wide web.

1 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said user terminal further comprises
2 an industry compatible personal computer.

1 15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said remote data base management
2 system further comprises MAPPER data base management system.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:

- 2 a. means for permitting a user to access a publically accessible digital data
- 3 communication network;
- 4 b. means responsively coupled to said permitting means via said publically
- 5 accessible digital data communication network for providing data base
- 6 management services;

c. means responsively coupled to said permitting means and said responding means for designing a service through specification of an ordered plurality of discreet and independent steps; and

d. means responsively coupled to said designing means for presenting a plurality of valid potential steps for selection of each of said ordered plurality of discreet and independent steps.

17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said presenting means further comprises a means for inhibiting presentation of any step which is invalid for a corresponding position within said ordered plurality of discreet and independent steps.

18. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

19. An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said responding means further comprises MAPPER data base management system.

20. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said permitting means further comprises an industry standard personal computer.